

Government.

[Translation]

**Wholesale and Retail Prices of Essential Commodities**

610. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :  
SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the difference between the present wholesale and retail prices per kilogram of essential commodities in the metropolitan cities;

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued in regard to maximum difference permissible between wholesale and retail prices of the essential commodities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the method by which the Government monitor the prices of essential commodities particularly retail prices so as to safeguard interests of the consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) A Statement showing the wholesale and retail prices of selected essential items as on 5.2.1997 at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras is given in the Statement.

(b) and (c) There are no guidelines in regard to maximum difference permissible between wholesale and retail prices.

(d) Based on the data received from the State Governments, the Central Government monitors on a daily basis the retail prices of 12 essential commodities at selected centres in the country and takes appropriate measures to safeguard the interests of the consumers.

**Statement**

*Wholesale and Retail Prices of Selected Essential Commodities in the Metropolitan Cities as on 5.2.1997.*

(Rs. per kg.)

	Delhi		Bombay		Calcutta		Madras	
	Wholesale	Retail	Wholesale	Retail	Wholesale	Retail	Wholesale	Retail
Rice	7.50	12.00	8.75	10.00	7.80	8.00	8.64	11.00
Wheat	6.25	8.00	10.51	12.50	N.R.	N.R.	12.07	13.00
Gram	12.50	16.50	16.51	20.00	13.80	16.00	14.76	17.00
Tur	17.00	28.00	30.00	34.00	20.00	28.00	25.89	30.00
Sugar	11.60	14.50	12.40	14.00	12.60	14.00	12.53	13.00
Groundnut Oil	38.00	50.00	34.00	42.00	44.00	54.00	32.44	39.00
Mustard Oil	32.00	38.00	42.00	44.00	33.00	36.00	N.R.	N.R.
Vanaspati	37.66	38.00	36.00	44.00	39.33	45.00	33.78	41.00

Prices are originally reported per quintal and have been converted to Rs. per kg.

Source : Civil Supplies Department.

**Son of Soil Welfare Scheme**

611. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 'Soil' Welfare scheme has been

launched in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Information is being